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# ON WEAK INJECTIVITY AND WEAK PROJECTIVITY

MOHAMMAD SALEH\*

Department of Mathematics  
Birzeit University, West Bank, Palestine  
email: mohammad@math.birzeit.edu

AND

ALI ABDUL-MOHSEN

Department of Mathematics  
An-Najah University, Nablus, West Bank

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## Abstract

Given a right  $R$ -module  $M$ , a module  $Q \in \sigma[M]$  is said to be weakly injective in  $\sigma[M]$  if for every finitely generated submodule  $N$  of the  $M$ -injective hull  $\hat{Q}$ ,  $N$  is contained in a submodule  $Y$  of  $\hat{Q}$  such that  $Y \simeq Q$ . Weakly projective modules in  $\sigma[M]$  are defined dually.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Throughout this paper all rings are associative with identity and all modules are unitary. We denote the category of all right  $R$ -modules by  $\text{Mod-}R$  and for any  $M \in \text{Mod-}R$ ,  $\sigma[M]$  stands for the full subcategory of  $\text{Mod-}R$  whose objects are submodules of  $M$ -generated modules (see [12]). Given a module  $X_R$  the injective hull of  $X$  in  $\text{Mod-}R$  (resp., in  $\sigma[M]$ ) is denoted by

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$E(X)$  (resp.,  $\widehat{X}$ ). The purpose of this paper is to further the study of the concepts of weak injectivity (projectivity) in  $\sigma[M]$  studied in [3], and [13].

Given two modules  $Q$  and  $N \in \sigma[M]$ , we call  $Q$  weakly  $N$ -injective in  $\sigma[M]$  if for every homomorphism  $\varphi : N \rightarrow \widehat{Q}$ , there exists a homomorphism  $\widehat{\varphi} : N \rightarrow Q$  and a monomorphism  $\sigma : Q \rightarrow \widehat{Q}$  such that  $\varphi = \sigma\widehat{\varphi}$ . Equivalently, there exists a submodule  $X$  of  $\widehat{Q}$  such that  $\varphi(N) \subset X \simeq Q$ . A module  $Q \in \sigma[M]$  is called *weakly injective* in  $\sigma[M]$  if for every finitely generated submodule  $N$  of the  $M$ -injective hull  $\widehat{Q}$ ,  $N$  is contained in a submodule  $Y$  of  $\widehat{Q}$  such that  $Y \simeq Q$ . Equivalently, if  $Q$  is weakly  $N$ -injective for all finitely generated modules  $N$  in  $\sigma[M]$ .

A module  $X$  is  $N$ -tight in  $\sigma[M]$  if every quotient of  $N$  which is embeddable in the  $M$ -injective hull of  $X$  is embeddable in  $X$ . A module  $X$  is *tight* in  $\sigma[M]$  if it is tight in  $\sigma[M]$  relative to all finitely generated submodules of its  $M$ -injective hull.

Given two modules  $Q$  and  $N \in \sigma[M]$ , we call  $Q$  weakly  $N$ -projective in  $\sigma[M]$  if for every homomorphism  $\varphi : P(Q) \rightarrow N$ , where  $P(Q)$  is the  $\sigma[M]$ -projective cover, there exists a homomorphism  $\widehat{\varphi} : Q \rightarrow N$  and an epimorphism  $\sigma : P(Q) \rightarrow Q$  such that  $\varphi = \widehat{\varphi}\sigma$ . Equivalently, if for every homomorphism  $\varphi : P(Q) \rightarrow N$ , there exists a submodule  $X$  of  $\ker(\varphi)$  such that  $P(Q)/X \simeq Q$ . A module  $Q \in \sigma[M]$  is called *weakly projective* in  $\sigma[M]$  if it is weakly  $N$ -projective for all finitely  $M$ -generated modules  $N$  in  $\sigma[M]$ . Given two modules  $Q$  and  $N \in \sigma[M]$ , we call  $Q$   $N$ -cotight in  $\sigma[M]$  if for every epimorphism  $\varphi : P(Q) \rightarrow N$ , where  $P(Q)$  is the  $\sigma[M]$ -projective cover, there exists an epimorphism  $\widehat{\varphi} : Q \rightarrow N$ .

## 2. Weak- Projectivity (Cotightness) in $\sigma[M]$ .

In this section we study some of the basic results on weak projectivity (cotightness) in  $\sigma[M]$ .

**Theorem 2.1.** Let  $N, Q \in \sigma[M]$ . If  $Q$  has a projective cover  $P$  in  $\sigma[M]$  via an epimorphism  $\pi : P \rightarrow N$ . Then  $Q$  is  $N$ -projective in  $\sigma[M]$  if and only if for every homomorphism  $\varphi : P \rightarrow N$ , there exists  $\widehat{\varphi} : Q \rightarrow N$  such that  $\widehat{\varphi}\pi = \varphi$ . Equivalently,  $\varphi(\ker\pi) = 0$ .

*Proof* Only if direction. Let  $\varphi : P \rightarrow N$  be a homomorphism. We shall first show that  $\varphi(\ker\pi) = 0$ . Let  $T = \varphi(\ker\pi)$  and let  $\pi_T : N \rightarrow N/T$  be

the natural projection. Then  $\varphi$  induces  $\hat{\varphi}(q) = \pi_T \varphi(p)$ , where  $q = \pi(p)$ . It follows that  $\hat{\varphi} \pi = \pi_T \varphi$ . Since  $Q$  is  $N$ -projective in  $\sigma[M]$ , there exists a map  $\beta : Q \rightarrow N$  such that  $\hat{\varphi} = \pi_T \beta$ . Clearly,  $(\varphi - \beta\pi)P \subseteq T$ . We claim that  $\varphi = \beta\pi$ .

Let  $X = \{p \in P \mid \varphi(p) = \beta\pi(p)\}$ . We shall show that  $X = P$ . Let  $x \in P$ . Since  $(\varphi - \beta\pi)(x) \in T = \varphi(\text{Ker}\pi)$ , there exists  $k \in \text{Ker}\pi$  such that  $(\varphi - \beta\pi)(x) = \varphi(k)$ . Therefore,  $(\varphi - \beta\pi)P = 0$ . In particular,  $(\varphi - \beta\pi)\text{Ker}\pi = 0$ , yielding  $\varphi(\text{Ker}\pi) = 0$ . Equivalently, there exists  $\varphi' : Q \rightarrow N$  such that  $\varphi'\pi = \varphi$ .

Conversely, let  $\Phi : Q \rightarrow N/K$  be a homomorphism and  $\Phi' : P \rightarrow N$  such that  $\Phi\pi = \pi_K \Phi'$ . By our hypothesis there exists  $\Phi'' : Q \rightarrow N$  such that  $\Phi''\pi = \Phi'$ . It follows easily that  $\pi_K \Phi'' = \Phi$ , proving that  $Q$  is  $N$ -projective.

The next theorem is a very useful characterization of weak projectivity.

**Theorem 2.2.** Let  $N, Q \in \sigma[M]$ . If  $Q$  has a projective cover  $P$  in  $\sigma[M]$  via an epimorphism  $\pi : P \rightarrow N$ . Then  $Q$  is weakly  $N$ -projective in  $\sigma[M]$  if and only if for every homomorphism  $\varphi : P \rightarrow N$  there exists  $X \subset \text{ker}\varphi$  such that  $P/X \simeq Q$ .

*Proof* Let  $\varphi : P \rightarrow N$  be a homomorphism. Assume that  $Q$  is weakly  $N$ -projective in  $\sigma[M]$  and let  $\hat{\varphi} : Q \rightarrow N$  be the homomorphism and  $\sigma : P \rightarrow N$  the epimorphism as in the definition of weak  $N$ -projectivity. Since  $\varphi = \hat{\varphi}\sigma$ ,  $\text{ker}\sigma \subseteq \text{ker}\varphi$ . Thus the implication is proven by taking  $X = \text{ker}\sigma$ . Conversely, if  $X \subseteq P$  satisfies the conditions in the statement of the theorem, then the isomorphism  $P/X \cong Q$ , composed with the natural projection  $\pi_X : P \rightarrow P/X$  is an epimorphism  $\sigma$  satisfies that  $\text{ker}\sigma = X \subseteq \text{ker}\varphi$ . It follows that the mapping  $\hat{\varphi} : Q \rightarrow N$  given by  $\hat{\varphi}(q) = \varphi(p)$ , whenever  $\sigma(p) = q$  is well-defined and satisfies  $\varphi = \hat{\varphi}\sigma$ , proving that  $Q$  is weakly  $N$ -projective.

For cotightness, following similar proof as in Theorem 2.2 one gets the following characterization.

**Theorem 2.3.** Let  $N, Q \in \sigma[M]$ . If  $Q$  has a projective cover  $P$  in  $\sigma[M]$  via an epimorphism  $\pi : P \rightarrow N$ . Then  $Q$  is  $N$ -cotight in  $\sigma[M]$  if and only if for every homomorphism  $\varphi : P \rightarrow N$  there exists  $X \subset \text{ker}\varphi$  and  $K \subset Q$

such that  $P/X \simeq Q/K$ .

The class of weak projectivity in  $\sigma[M]$  is closed under submodules and quotient modules.

**Proposition 2.4.** For modules  $N, L \in \sigma[M]$ , the following conditions are equivalent:

- (a)  $L$  is weakly  $N$ -projective in  $\sigma[M]$ ;
- (b)  $L$  is weakly  $K$ -projective in  $\sigma[M]$  for every submodule  $K$  of  $N$ ;
- (c)  $L$  is weakly  $N/K$ -projective in  $\sigma[M]$  for every submodule  $K$  of  $N$ ;
- (d) for every submodule  $K$  of  $N$ , and for every epimorphism  $\varphi : P(L) \rightarrow K$ , where  $P(L)$  is the  $\sigma[M]$ -projective cover, there exists an epimorphism  $\hat{\varphi} : K \rightarrow L$  and an epimorphism  $\sigma : P(L) \rightarrow L$  such that  $\varphi = \hat{\varphi}\sigma$ .

Proof(a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b). Assume  $L$  is weakly  $N$ -projective and let  $\varphi : P(L) \rightarrow K$  be a homomorphism. By weak projectivity of  $L$ ,  $f = i_K\varphi$  factors through  $L$  by an epimorphism  $\sigma : P(L) \rightarrow L$  and a homomorphism  $\hat{f} : L \rightarrow N$ . Since  $\sigma$  is onto, the range of  $\hat{f}$  equals the range of  $f$  and so is contained in  $K$ . Define  $\hat{\varphi} : K \rightarrow L$  by  $\hat{\varphi}(q) = \hat{f}(q)$ . Then it follows that  $\varphi = \hat{\varphi}\sigma$ .

(b)  $\Rightarrow$  (c). Let  $K$  be a submodule of  $N$  and let  $\varphi : P(L) \rightarrow N/K$  be a homomorphism. By the projectivity of  $P(L)$ , there exists a homomorphism  $\hat{\varphi} : P(L) \rightarrow N$  such that  $\varphi = \pi_K\hat{\varphi}$ . Since  $L$  is weakly  $N$ -projective, there exists an epimorphism  $\sigma : P(L) \rightarrow L$  and a homomorphism  $\hat{\sigma} : L \rightarrow N$  such that  $\hat{\varphi} = \hat{\sigma}\sigma$ . It follows that  $\varphi = \pi_K\hat{\sigma}\sigma$ , proving that  $L$  is weakly  $N/K$ -projective.

(c)  $\Rightarrow$  (d) and (d)  $\Rightarrow$  (a) are straightforward.

Finite direct sums of weakly projectives (cotights) in  $\sigma[M]$  and superfluous covers of weakly projective modules are also weakly projective in  $\sigma[M]$ .

**Proposition 2.5.** For modules  $N, L$  and  $K \in \sigma[M]$ , we have the following:

- (a) if  $L$  and  $K$  are weakly  $N$ -projective (cotight) in  $\sigma[M]$ , then  $L \oplus K$  is weakly  $N$ -projective (cotight) in  $\sigma[M]$ ,
- (b) if  $L$  is weakly  $N$ -projective in  $\sigma[M]$  and  $K$  is a superfluous cover of  $L$  then  $K$  is weakly  $N$ -projective in  $\sigma[M]$ ,
- (c) if a module  $X$  in  $\sigma[M]$  is weakly projective relative to its projective cover in  $\sigma[M]$ , then  $X$  is projective in  $\sigma[M]$ . Consequently, a finitely

generated weakly projective module in  $\sigma[M]$  is indeed projective in  $\sigma[M]$ .

Proof Straightforward from the definition.

**Proposition 2.6.** Let  $\{X_i\}_I$  be a class of weakly  $N$ -projectives (cotight) in  $\sigma[M]$  and  $\bigoplus_I X_i$  has a projective cover in  $\sigma[M]$ . Then  $\bigoplus_I X_i$  is weakly  $N$ -projective (cotight) in  $\sigma[M]$ .

Proof The proof follows directly from the fact that in this case  $P(\bigoplus_I X_i) = \bigoplus_I P(X_i)$ .

The next proposition shows the difference between weak-projectivity and cotightness in  $\sigma[M]$  and the proof is the same as in [6].

**Proposition 2.7.** Given modules  $N, Q \in \sigma[M]$ , and assume  $Q$  is supplemented and has a projective cover  $\pi : P \rightarrow Q$  in  $\sigma[M]$ . Then  $Q$  is weakly  $N$ -projective in  $\sigma[M]$  if and only if for every submodule  $K$  of  $N$  and for every epimorphism  $\varphi : P \rightarrow K$ , there exists an epimorphism  $\hat{\varphi} : Q \rightarrow K$  such that for every supplement  $L'$  of  $\ker \hat{\varphi}$  in  $Q$ , there exists a submodule  $L$  of  $P$  such that  $P/L \simeq Q/L'$  and  $L + \ker \varphi = P$ .

**Corollary 2.8.** Given modules  $N, Q \in \sigma[M]$ . If  $Q$  is hollow then  $Q$  is  $N$ -cotight in  $\sigma[M]$  iff  $Q$  is weakly  $N$ -projective in  $\sigma[M]$ .

**Proposition 2.9.** Given modules  $N, Q \in \sigma[M]$ . If  $Q$  is self-projective and cotight (weakly  $N$ -projective) in  $\sigma[M]$ , then  $Q$  is indeed  $N$ -projective in  $\sigma[M]$ .

Proof Let  $\varphi : P \rightarrow K$ . Since  $Q$  is cotight in  $\sigma[M]$  there exists an epimorphism  $\hat{\varphi} : Q \rightarrow \text{Im}(\varphi)$  and by the projectivity of  $P$ , there exists a homomorphism  $f : P \rightarrow Q$  such that  $\varphi = \hat{\varphi}f$ . By self-projectivity of  $Q$  and Theorem 3.1, there exists a homomorphism  $\hat{f} : Q \rightarrow Q$  such that  $f = \hat{f}\pi$ . It follows that  $\varphi = \hat{\varphi}\hat{f}\pi$ , proving that  $Q$  is  $N$ -projective.

A finitely generated direct summand  $S$  of the projective cover of a weakly projective (cotight) module  $X$  in  $\sigma[M]$  yields a direct summand (isomorphic to  $S$ ) of  $X$ .

**Proposition 2.10.** Let  $Q$  be a (cotight) weakly projective module in  $\sigma[M]$  whose projective cover in  $\sigma[M]$  has a finitely generated direct summand

$S$ . Then  $Q$  has a direct summand isomorphic to  $S$ .

*Proof* Since  $S$  is finitely generated,  $Q$  is  $S$ -cotight. Thus the projection map  $\pi_S : P(Q) \rightarrow S$  yields an epimorphism  $\pi'_S : Q \rightarrow S$ . Since  $S$  is projective we get  $Q \cong S \oplus \ker \pi'_S$ , proving our claim.

**Proposition 2.11.** Let  $M_R$  be locally noetherian, and let  $Q, N$  be finitely generated in  $\sigma[M]$ . If  $Q$  is  $N$ -cotight in  $\sigma[M]$  and  $N$  is  $Q$ -cotight in  $\sigma[M]$  and  $Q/J(Q) \simeq N/J(N)$  then  $Q \simeq N$ .

*Proof* Let  $\sigma : P(Q) \rightarrow N$  be the epimorphism induced by the isomorphism between  $Q/J(Q)$  and  $N/J(N)$ . Since  $Q$  is  $N$ -cotight in  $\sigma[M]$ ,  $N$  is a homomorphic image of  $M$ . Similarly,  $M$  is a homomorphic image of  $N$ . Since  $M$  and  $N$  are finitely generated over artinian ring,  $M \simeq N$ .

### 3. Weak- Injectivity (tightness) in $\sigma[M]$ .

In this section we dualize most of the basic results on weak projectivity in  $\sigma[M]$  given in the previous section and the proof is dualizable in most of these cases.

**Proposition 3.1.** Let  $Q, N \in \sigma[M]$ . Then  $Q$  is weakly  $N$ -injective in  $\sigma[M]$  if and only if for every homomorphism  $\varphi : N \rightarrow \widehat{Q}$ , there exists a submodule  $X$  of  $\widehat{Q}$  such that  $\varphi(N) \subset X \simeq Q$ .

The class of weak injectivity in  $\sigma[M]$  is closed under submodules and quotient modules as it is shown in the next proposition.

**Proposition 3.2.** For modules  $N, L \in \sigma[M]$ , the following conditions are equivalent:

- (a)  $L$  is weakly  $N$ -injective in  $\sigma[M]$ ;
- (b)  $L$  is weakly  $K$ -injective in  $\sigma[M]$  for every submodule  $K$  of  $N$ ;
- (c)  $L$  is weakly  $N/K$ -injective in  $\sigma[M]$  for every submodule  $K$  of  $N$ ;
- (d) for every submodule  $K$  of  $N$ , and for every monomorphism  $\varphi : N/K \rightarrow \widehat{L}$ , there exists a monomorphism  $\widehat{\varphi} : N/K \rightarrow L$  and a monomorphism  $\sigma : N/K \rightarrow \widehat{L}$  such that  $\varphi = \sigma \widehat{\varphi}$ .

**Proposition 3.3.** For modules  $N, L$  and  $K \in \sigma[M]$ , we have the following:

- (a) if  $L$  and  $K$  are weakly  $N$ -injective (tight) in  $\sigma[M]$  then  $L \oplus K$  is weakly  $N$ -injective (tight) in  $\sigma[M]$ ,
- (b) if  $L$  is weakly  $N$ -injective in  $\sigma[M]$  and  $L$  is an essential submodule of  $K$  then  $K$  is weakly  $N$ -injective in  $\sigma[M]$ .

**Proposition 3.4.** Given modules  $N, Q \in \sigma[M]$ ,  $Q$  is weakly  $N$ -injective in  $\sigma[M]$  if and only if for every submodule  $K$  of  $N$  and for every monomorphism  $\varphi: N/K \rightarrow \widehat{Q}$ , there exists a monomorphism  $\widehat{\varphi}: N/K \rightarrow Q$ , and for every complement  $L$  of  $\widehat{\varphi}(N/K)$  in  $Q$ , there exists  $L' \subset \widehat{Q}$  such that  $L' \cap \varphi(N/K) = 0$  and  $L' \simeq L$ .

**Corollary 3.5.** Given modules  $N, Q \in \sigma[M]$ . If  $Q$  is uniform then  $Q$  is  $N$ -tight in  $\sigma[M]$  iff  $Q$  is weakly  $N$ -injective in  $\sigma[M]$ .

**Proposition 3.6.** Given modules  $N, Q \in \sigma[M]$ . If  $Q$  is self-injective and  $N$ -tight (weakly  $N$ -injective) in  $\sigma[M]$ , then  $Q$  is indeed  $N$ -injective in  $\sigma[M]$ .

**Proposition 3.7.** Let  $M$  be a locally artinian module, and let  $N, Q$  be finitely generated modules in  $\sigma[M]$ . If  $Q$  is  $N$ -tight in  $\sigma[M]$  and  $N$  is  $Q$ -tight in  $\sigma[M]$  and  $Soc(Q) \simeq Soc(N)$  then  $Q \simeq N$ .

*Proof* Let  $\sigma: N \rightarrow E(M)$  be the monomorphism induced by the isomorphism between  $Soc(M)$  and  $Soc(N)$ . Since  $M$  is  $N$ -tight in  $\sigma[M]$ ,  $N$  is embeddable in  $M$ . Similarly,  $M$  is embeddable in  $N$ . Since  $M$  and  $N$  are finitely generated over artinian ring,  $M \simeq N$ .

#### 4. A Characterization of Semisimple Modules.

In this section we characterize (weakly) semisimple modules by weak projectivity and weak injectivity in  $\sigma[M]$ .

**Lemma 4.1.** Let  $M$  be projective and perfect in  $\sigma[M]$ . Then there exists a module  $K \in \sigma[M]$  such that  $K \oplus X$  is a weakly projective module in  $\sigma[M]$ , for every module  $X \in \sigma[M]$ .

**Lemma 4.2.** Every semisimple module in  $\sigma[M]$  is a direct summand of a weakly injective module in  $\sigma[M]$ .



**Lemma 4.3.** Every module in  $\sigma[M]$  is a direct summand of a tight module in  $\sigma[M]$ .

**Lemma 4.4.** Let  $M$  be a locally *q.f.d.* module. Then every module  $K \in \sigma[M]$  is a direct summand of a weakly injective module  $Q = K \oplus (\widehat{K})^{(\alpha)}$  in  $\sigma[M]$ , where  $\alpha$  is an infinite cardinal number.

The proof of the next theorem follows easily from the above results.

**Theorem 4.5.** For a module  $M_R$ . The following are equivalent:

- (a)  $M$  is semisimple;
- (b)  $M$  is projective and perfect and every weakly projective module in  $\sigma[M]$  is (quasi-) discrete;
- (c)  $M$  is projective and perfect and every discrete module is weakly projective in  $\sigma[M]$ ;
- (d)  $M$  is projective and perfect and every weakly projective module in  $\sigma[M]$  is (quasi-) continuous;
- (e)  $M$  is locally *q.f.d.* and every weakly injective module in  $\sigma[M]$  is (quasi-) discrete;
- (f)  $M$  is locally *q.f.d.* and every weakly injective module in  $\sigma[M]$  is (quasi-) continuous;
- (g) every continuous module is weakly projective in  $\sigma[M]$ ;
- (h) every (direct summand of a) weakly injective module in  $\sigma[M]$  is (injective) projective in  $\sigma[M]$ ;
- (i)  $M$  is projective and perfect and every weakly projective module in  $\sigma[M]$  is injective (projective) in  $\sigma[M]$ ;
- (j)  $M$  is projective and perfect in  $\sigma[M]$  and every direct summand of a weakly projective module in  $\sigma[M]$  is weakly projective in  $\sigma[M]$ ;
- (k)  $M$  is projective and perfect in  $\sigma[M]$  and every (direct summand of a) weakly projective module in  $\sigma[M]$  is quasi-projective in  $\sigma[M]$ ;
- (l) every direct summand of a weakly injective module in  $\sigma[M]$  is quasi-injective in  $\sigma[M]$ ;
- (m)  $M$  is projective and perfect in  $\sigma[M]$  and every direct summand of a weakly projective module in  $\sigma[M]$  is injective in  $\sigma[M]$ .

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